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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1954.





DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady Mary Clive and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1954, which is furnished in accordance with Article 17, sub-section 5, of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Circular 28/54 of the Ministry of Health.

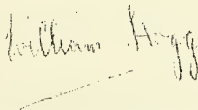
The year 1954 was one of low incidence of infectious disease; whooping cough and pneumonia being the diseases most frequently notified. The climate of the year was somewhat cold and the rainfall above the average, and whilst this lessened the problems of water supply, it no doubt contributed to the increased incidence of pneumonia.

I have to acknowledge assistance in the preparation of this Report and throughout the year by my colleagues, Mr. F. Craze, Clerk to the Council; Mr. E.A.J. Reece, Financial Officer; Mr. D.J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector; and Mr. D.O. Williams, Assistant Finance and Rating Officer.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the support which has always been given me in the discharge of my duties.


I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Hogg".

Medical Officer of Health.

18th October, 1955.



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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.I.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale.

Telephone:

Chepstow House,

Ross-on-Wye 2214.

Ross-on-Wye.

SANITARY INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. David J. Francis, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR AND ASSISTANT SURVEYOR

Mr. R.E. Moore. C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Telephone:-

Urishay House,  
Peterchurch,  
Herefordshire.

Peterchurch 241



SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The District is entirely agricultural in character. There is much fine scenery, especially in the West where the Black Mountains form an impressive boundary.

Area (in acres)	...	84,532
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.54)	...	2,413
Rateable Value	...	£26,825
Product of a Penny Rate	...	£107. 9. 2d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population.	...	8,340

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year

Crude live Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	...	16.4
Adjusted Live Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	...	17.7
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births (live and still).	....	Nil
Crude Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	...	8.6
Adjusted Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population.	...	8.0
Area Comparability Factor (Births).	...	1.08
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths).	...	0.93

Deaths from Maternal Causes

Heading No.30.		<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 total Births.</u>
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.		Nil	Nil

Death Rates of Infants under One Year of Age.

All Infants per 1000 live births.	...	7.3
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births.	...	7.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	...	Nil

### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population is 8340. The average number of persons per occupied house is 3.46 and the estimated number of persons per acre is 0.098. The average number of occupied dwellings per acre is 0.029. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths, is 65.

### Births

The total number of live births registered during the year was 136 (76 male and 61 female), giving a crude live birth rate of 16.4 per 1000 of the estimated population. The corrected live birth rate, using the comparability factor of 1.08, was 17.7 per 1000 population. The number of illegitimate births was 6 (3 male and 3 female). The live births which occurred out of wedlock form 4.4% of the total live births. The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1954 is 15.2 per 1000 population.

### Stillbirths

No stillbirths were registered during the year. The still-birth rate was Nil. The stillbirth rate for the year for England and Wales is 24.0 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

### Deaths

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the area was 72 (47 male and 25 female), after the deduction of deaths of non-residents occurring within the District and the addition of deaths of residents occurring outside the area. The crude death rate is 8.6 per 1000 population. When the rate is adjusted the corrected death rate for the Rural District is 8.0 per 1000 population. The death rate for England and Wales for the year under review is 11.3 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female deaths is 2.88. In 1953, there were 90 deaths registered in the Rural District.

The most frequent cause of death was heart disease (headings Nos. 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 22 deaths (11 male and 11 female) and giving an adjusted death rate from this cause of 2.45 per 1000 estimated population. Heart disease accounts for one third of all deaths in the Rural District.

### Cancer Deaths

All forms of cancer (headings Nos. 10, 11 and 14) caused 11 deaths and gives an adjusted death rate from this cause of 1.23 per 1000 population. In 1953 there were 15 deaths attributed to all forms of cancer.

### Infantile Deaths.

The number of infants under one year of age who died is 1 (male). The infant mortality rate for the Rural District is, therefore, 7.3 per 1000 live births and this rate for the year for England and Wales is 25.5 per 1000 live births. The infant mortality was caused by neonatal causes.



Deaths due to Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea

No deaths are attributed to gastritis, enteritis or diarrhoea.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Pneumonia caused four deaths and was the only acute notifiable disease causing death. The adjusted death rate for the Rural District for pneumonia is, therefore, 0.45 per 1000 population. In 1953 seven deaths were caused by this disease.

Tuberculosis

One death was caused by respiratory tuberculosis. The adjusted local death rate from tuberculosis is 0.11 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for the year from this cause is 0.179 per 1000 population.

Table of Causes of Death according to Sex and Mortality Rates.

List No.	Cause.	Male.	Fe- male.	Per- sons.	Corrected D.R. per 1000 Popln.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1	0.11
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2	0.22
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	-	3	0.33
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	4	2	6	0.67
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	-	1	1	0.11
16.	Diabetes.	1	1	2	0.22
17.	Vascular lesions of Nervous System.	8	3	11	1.23
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	3	2	5	0.56
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	3	1	4	0.45
20.	Other heart disease.	5	8	13	1.45
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	-	1	0.11
23.	Pneumonia.	4	-	4	0.45
24.	Bronchitis.	4	-	4	0.45
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.11
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	-	2	0.22
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.	2	-	2	0.22
31.	Congenital malformations.	1	1	2	0.22
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	1	4	5	0.56
33.	Motor vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1	0.11
34.	All other Accidents.	-	1	1	0.11
35.	Suicide.	1	-	1	0.11
All Causes		47	25	72	8.02

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The usual clinical laboratory investigations are made at the Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford.

The following table shows the number of examinations carried out by the Laboratory at the request of the Department:-

Swabs	...	3
Faeces	...	8
Milk (Methylene Blue)	...	5
Milk for organisms.	...	2
Water (Bacteriological)	...	72

In addition two samples of water were sent for examination by chemical methods.

Hospitals

The needs of the population are met by the hospitals in the city of Hereford. Accommodation for cases of infectious disease is available at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital, and the County Hospital, Hereford.

Ambulances

The ambulances in the City of Hereford are used to meet the requirements of the inhabitants of the District.

Clinics

A County Council Infant Welfare Centre is held every Tuesday afternoon at Instructional Site, Kingstone.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50.

One burial was carried out by the Council under this section during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No investigations were made under this section during the year.

## SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Geology

The whole of the area is formed of Old Red Sandstone of the Devonian System, here represented by Upper and Lower Old Red Sandstone and Marls.

### Water

The water supplies in the Rural District are of various types. Many dwellings depend upon shallow wells. There are small piped schemes, both private and public, utilising springs. In the Madley and Kingstone area a scheme uses purified river water. These supplies are not adequate for the needs of the area, and shortage of water was experienced in particular at Abbeydore, Ewyas Harold, Kilpeck, Vowchurch and Walterstone.

Piped water supplies are provided by the Council in the parishes of Clifford, Dorstone and Longtown. These utilise springs on high ground, and gravitate to the supply areas, no treatment being applied. Domestic supplies are almost all afforded by separate services but there are three standpipes on the Clifford scheme and one on the Dorstone scheme. The water of the Clifford scheme is somewhat peaty and occasionally shows a small bacterial content and this supply is barely adequate for the District.

The Council continued to manage the water scheme installed at the former R.A.F. Establishment at Madley, which provides a piped supply in Madley and Kingstone. The water is pumped from the river Wye, is purified, chlorinated and pumped to an elevated reservoir at Kingstone. The intake and pumping station is situated at Eaton Bishop, in the Hereford Rural District. During the year, the Council's Consulting Engineers prepared a scheme for the supply of water to the greater part of the Rural District, based largely upon this installation. This scheme is awaiting approval of the Minister. At present the control of this supply is in a somewhat ill defined position.

During the year, no extensions of public water mains were made.

The following table gives the number of dwellings supplied from public water mains:-

Clifford	...	95
Dorstone	...	44
Longtown	...	69
Kingstone	...	251
Madley	...	41

In Cusop parish, 54 dwellings are supplied from the water mains of the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The number of samples of water submitted for bacteriological examination was 72 and 31 of these were not of good potable quality. There is no evidence that any water in use in the Rural District for domestic purposes has any appreciable solvent action upon metals.

During the year 4 wells were cleansed and repaired and one new water supply was provided. Water supplies were inspected on 72 occasions.

### Drainage and Sewerage

In the parishes of Kingstone and Madley, a system of sewers constructed in connection with the R.A.F. establishment remained unchanged. The Council continued the management of the sewage disposal works receiving effluent from these sewers. The works are of considerable size and contain settlement tanks, rotary biological filters and sludge tanks. The flow of sewage at present being dealt with is well within the capacity of the works. A scheme for the extension of these sewers at Madley and Kingstone was prepared but construction was not commenced.

The number of new drains constructed in connection with dwelling houses was 48. The number of existing drains repaired or reconstructed was 42. The number of drain tests carried out by the Sanitary Inspector was 100.

### Rivers and Streams.

The Rural District contains a number of rivers. The river Wye in the north forms part of the boundary of the area from Hay to Bredwardine. The Rural District is traversed by the Monnow, the Dore, the Escley Brook and Dulas Brook - all are clean rivers. During the year the Wye River Board cleared the course of the River Dore within the Rural District.

### Closet Accommodation

The principal type of closet in use within the Area is the pail closet, but the number of water closets steadily increases each year. Efforts to secure conversion continued throughout the year. Twelve privies were converted to pail closets and 16 privies were converted to water closets, whilst 26 pail closets were converted to water closets. However, about half of the population are still obliged to use privies or pail closets.

### Public Cleansing

The Council provides a system of domestic refuse collection throughout the area with the exception of Cusop parish. This is carried out by contract and collection is made every six weeks. Refuse disposal is by tipping.

In Cusop parish a regular system of domestic refuse collection is provided in conjunction with the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The Council does not carry out the cleansing of cesspools and privies other than those on its own property, but 22 cesspools were cleansed by owners as a result of informal action, and the Council cleansed 9 cesspools during the year.

### Shops and Offices

No formal action was necessary under the Public Health Act, 1936, but 60 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

### Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public within the Area.

Camping Sites

Camping forms no significant public health problem at the present time in the Rural District. Two sites were used for camping purposes during 1954 and were quite satisfactory. The maximum number of campers within the area on any one day is estimated at 56 persons. No licences were issued by the Council with respect to Camping sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No dwelling houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. D.J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following tabular statement, furnished under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	18
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	2
Caravans	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	94
Drainage	...	...	...	...	146
Drain Tests	...	...	...	...	100
Filthy and Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	2
Factories (without mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	22
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	14
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	2
Food Handling Byelaws	...	...	...	...	20
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	60
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925)	...	...	...	...	142
Houses (Other)	...	...	...	...	644
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	4
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	...	...	...	...	11
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	44
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	...	...	...	...	36
Markets	...	...	...	...	2
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	1
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	24
Diseases of Animals Acts (Anthrax Order 1938)	...	...	...	...	4
Schools	...	...	...	...	15
Sewage Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	48
Sewers	...	...	...	...	26
Shops	...	...	...	...	60
Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	38
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	154
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	15
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	72
Work Places	...	...	...	...	49
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1633

Notices Issued

Informal	...	...	...	...	43
Statutory re Housing	...	...	...	...	2
Statutory under other Acts	...	...	...	...	2



Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	6
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed...	...	...	...	22
Ditches cleared	...	...	...	1
Drains and Gullies cleared	...	...	...	87
Drains repaired	...	...	...	42
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	6
New drains provided	...	...	...	48
Defective floors repaired	...	...	...	18
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	...	49
Defective eaves gutters repaired	...	...	...	26
Defective brickwork repaired	...	...	...	49
Defective Coppers remedied	...	...	...	4
Disinfections after infectious Disease	...	...	...	44
Disinfestations	...	...	...	2
Defective windows repaired	...	...	...	16
Defective chimneys repaired	...	...	...	22
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	...	...	...	18
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	22
Closets repaired	...	...	...	36
Dairies reconstructed	...	...	...	4
Dairies improved	...	...	...	2
Filthy and Verminous Premises cleansed	...	...	...	2
New Gullies provided	...	...	...	132
Gully covers provided	...	...	...	132
Inspection chambers repaired	...	...	...	16
Old drains sealed	...	...	...	42
Privies converted to water closets	...	...	...	16
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	16
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	12
New sinks provided	...	...	...	62
Soil pipes repaired	...	...	...	2
Sanitary Fittings provided	...	...	...	42
Stoves repaired	...	...	...	4
Urinals repaired	...	...	...	4
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	2
Wells cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	4
Water supplies provided	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Defects remedied	...	...	...	696

Factories

There are 22 factories without mechanical power and 14 with mechanical power registered with the Council. The number of inspections made was 67. Two contraventions of the Act were found. One concerned lack of cleanliness and the other defective sanitary accommodation. Both defects were remedied during the year.

Factory Form 572 (Revised)

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1954, for the Rural District of Dore and Bredwardine, in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspect-ions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	22	23	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	14	18	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	7	26	-	-
Total	43	67	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	by H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness.	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers

There are now no outworkers registered with the Local Authority. In the previous year there was one person engaged in outwork.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council has appointed a part time Rodent Officer, and his work during 1954 is recorded by the following table:-

	Premises Inspected.	<u>Total Infestations</u>		No. of prop- erties treated.	Statutory Notices.
		Mice.	<u>Rats</u> Major Minor		
Local Authorities' Properties.	30	1	- 10	11	-
Dwelling Houses.	593	1	1 75	87	-
Agricultural Properties.	804	3	3 110	-	-
All other (including business) premises.	247	2	- 10	-	-
Total	1674	7	4 205	98	-

SECTION D - HOUSINGMadley Camp - Temporary Houses

The buildings in the former R.A.F. Establishment at Madley and Kingstone continued to be occupied throughout the year. At the end of the year, 147 temporary dwellings were still occupied and managed by the Council. In addition, there are 29 temporary dwellings under the management of another Authority. It is estimated that about 600 persons are housed in this temporary accommodation, much of it being sub-standard.

At the end of the previous year 179 temporary dwellings were occupied.



The Council's building programme for the provision of new dwellings continued to make progress. The number of new Council houses occupied during the year was 33 (6 at Kenderchurch, 18 at Kingstone and 9 at Peterchurch). A further 24 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. These were situated at Kingstone and Madley.

Private persons completed 6 dwellings and 2 were under construction at the end of the year.

At the end of the year there were 207 applications for houses before the Council which could not be satisfied. Inadequacy of water supplies prevented the construction of Council houses at Ewyas Harold.

#### Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	579
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	644
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1a above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932.	...	142
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	148
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	4
4.		Number of dwelling houses exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	51

#### Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	...	37
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#### Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

1.		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	...	2
	(b)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.		
		(i) By Owners	...	Nil
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners.	...	Nil

2.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	...	1
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices		
(i)	By Owners	...	1
(ii)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil
3.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	...	Nil
(b)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	...	Nil
4.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(a)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	...	Nil
(b)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	...	Nil

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

(a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	...	9
(b)	Number of families dwelling therein.	...	12
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein.	...	58
(d)	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	...	1
(e)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	...	2
(f)	Number of persons concerned in (e) above.	...	19
(g)	Dwelling houses which have again become overcrowded after steps by Local Authority for abatement.	...	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949. Section 20.

Two grants were made by the Council for the improvement of dwellings during the year.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

At the beginning of the year there were eight distributors of milk registered with the Council under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1949. During the year three distributors were added to the Register, so that at the end of the year eleven distributors were registered.

There are no plants for the pasteurization or sterilization of milk situated within the Rural District. Three distributors hold supplementary licences for the sale of pasteurized milk, one is licensed for the sale of sterilized milk, and two are licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk.

The number of samples of milk sent to the Public Health Laboratory for methylene blue test was 5 - all complied with the test. With a single exception these samples were undesignated milk.

Ice Cream.

The sale of this food within the Rural District is very limited. During the year 4 registrations for the storage and sale of ice cream were granted, bringing the total number of registrations to 10. The number of inspections made of registered premises was 11.

Shell Fish

The sale of occasional jars or tins of preserved shell fish appears to form the sale of shellfish within the District. No action was necessary with regard to this food.

Meat

The control of meat came to an end during the third quarter after many years, and centralised slaughtering ceased to be compulsory. As a result, the Council received 4 applications for licences of premises which had been formerly registered as slaughterhouses. After due consideration the Council granted these applications. All the premises are small but are in reasonable condition.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known).	55	18	1	307	79
<u>All diseases except</u>					
<u>Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	1	2	0	3	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	7	2	0	0	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	14.5%	22.2%	0	0.91%	12.6%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	3	7	-	-	18
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	5.45%	38.8%	-	-	22.7%

The inspection of meat immediately after slaughter has been carried out without any difficulty.

Food Poisoning

Only two notifications of food poisoning were received during the year. Both cases were caused by infection with *Salmonella typhimurium* and the second case was a direct contact of the first case. The original case may have contracted his infection as a result of meals taken whilst travelling in connection with his employment.

Unsound Food

The following table shows the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption, and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness.</u>
400 lbs.	Pig meat.	Disease.
6 lbs.	Sheep liver	Parasites.
32 lbs.	Pig Offal	Disease.
37 lbs.	Ox liver	"
68 lbs.	Pig meat.	"
18 lbs.	Beef	Decomposition.
342 lbs.	"	"
160 lbs.	Mutton	Disease.
165 lbs.	Pork.	"
82 lbs.	Beef.	"

Unsound Food (continued)

127 lbs.	Bovine Offals.	Disease.
78 lbs.	Porcine Offals.	"
40 lbs.	Sheep Offals.	"
41 lbs.	Dried Vegetables.	Weevil.
42 lbs.	Confectionery.	Contamination.

Fresh Meat surrendered as unfit for human consumption is collected and used for dog food.

Byelaws as to Handling, etc. of Food

The number of inspections made was 20 and no infringements were found.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute infectious disease was relatively low as only 75 notifications were received, which gives a notification rate of 9.0 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year 241 notifications were received in respect of five infectious diseases.

The Rural District was entirely free from diphtheria, acute poliomyelitis and enteric fevers throughout the year, and the only acute notifiable disease causing death was pneumonia which was attributed as the cause of four deaths.

The incidence of infectious disease was greatest during the first half of the year as 61 notifications were received, whilst only 14 were received during the second half of the year.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease in each quarter.

<u>Confirmed cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter</u>					
<u>Disease</u>	<u>1st Quarter.</u>	<u>2nd Quarter.</u>	<u>3rd Quarter.</u>	<u>4th Quarter.</u>	<u>Year.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	2	1	1	1	5
Whooping Cough.	17	24	2	-	43
Pneumonia.	8	7	-	6	21
Measles.	-	-	2	2	4
Dysentery.	2	-	-	-	2
All Diseases.	29	32	5	9	75

Scarlet Fever

The incidence of scarlet fever was less than during 1953 as only 5 notifications were received, whilst the previous year there were 9 cases. The incidence rate is 0.6 per 1000 population. All the cases were sporadic and not connected in any way.

Pneumonia

Altogether 21 notifications of pneumonia were received, 15 occurring in the first half of the year, this disease being the second most prevalent acute infection. The incidence rate was 2.5 per 1000 estimated population, which is somewhat higher than in 1953. Four deaths occurred giving a corrected death rate from this cause of 0.45 per 1000 estimated population.

Whooping Cough

Whooping Cough was the most prevalent acute infectious disease; 43 notifications were received and all except 2 occurred during the first six months of the year. The incidence rate was 5.2 per 1000 population and 40 of the patients were children under ten years of age. There were no deaths, and the disease disappeared from the District before the end of the third quarter. The number of families involved was 32 - of these 24 experienced one case, whilst 7 families each had two cases and there were five cases in one family. Twenty eight patients were females.

Measles.

Only four cases occurred, all in the second half of the year. In the previous year there were 191 cases notified and the disease tends to increase in prevalence every alternate year.

Dysentery

Two notifications of dysentery were received, both in the first quarter. Infection was due to the Sonne organism but it was not possible to ascertain the source of infection.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	65+	All Ages.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	5
Whooping Cough.	4	10	5	21	1	-	2	-	-	43
Measles.	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4
Pneumonia.	-	3	1	4	2	-	2	6	3	21
Dysentery.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total	5	15	8	28	5	1	4	6	3	75

Tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year there were 63 cases of tuberculosis on the register (49 respiratory and 14 non-respiratory disease). During the year 8 cases of respiratory disease were added, of these 6 cases were new infections, and 7 cases of respiratory disease were taken from the register. The number of cases remaining on the register was unchanged.



Tuberculosis. (continued)New Cases and Mortality during 1954

Age Groups.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

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